intent which have since been converted into Industrial licences: —

Year	No. of letters of intent issued to MRTP companies for 'no-in-dustry districts'	Letters of intent out of those indicated i col. (2) which have been converted int industrial licences as on 28-2-87
1984	7	2 28 6 2
1985 .	11	18 2
1986 ..	5	

(c) and (d) One of the Important objectives of Government's industrial policy is to correct regional imbalances and to encourage of dispersal of industries to backward areas. With this and In view, a number of incentives and concessions, such as Central investjmnt subsidy, concessional finance, transport subsidy, etc are being provided for establishing industries in "backward areas. Realising that one of the impediments encountered |h the psdusitrialfeatiori of backward regions, more particularly the 'no-industry districts', in the absence of infrastructural facilities, a scheme has been introduced for assisting the state Governments to take up jLnfrastructural development in one or two identified growth centres in each 'no-industry districts'.

To give further impetus to the industrialisation of backward" areas. It has also been decided to reduce the level of export obligation for MRTP|FERA companies in respect of Non-Appendix-I indus tries to 25 per cent in category 'B' and 'C' districts and completely dis pense with this requirement in res pect of Category 'A' backward districts.

Allotment of Maruti Cars

*12. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the persons who were allotted Maruti 800 in early February 1987 and who have deposited the full cost of vehicle in the said month were not given delivery of the vehicle till 28th February, 1987 and were later o_n compelled to pay the enhanced price of the vehicle; and

(b) (if- so, what are the reasons therefor and. the steps taken to refund the additional amount of money deposited towards such enhancement?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL, RAO); (a) and (b) some of the customers who had, deposited payment, on maturity Of their allotment, In February, 1987 could not be given delivery of their vehicle with in that month. According to ters of' said, the price has to be paid has prevailing on the date of delivery.

National Gas Grid

*13. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY; Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to establish a national gas grid;

(b)! whether it is a fect that natural gas worth several crores of rupees is at present being burnt as waste at the Bombay High and Madras;

(c) whether Government have under consideration a proposal to toy a net work of gas pipeline linking the natural gas bases on the Krishna-Godavari basin, Gujarat, Bombay High and other areas to augment the supply of oil and natural • gas in the country.

(&) Whethe$_r$ Government hav$_e$ prepared any blue prints and the estimates of the cost likely to be incurred in setting up a national gas grid; and

(e) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PEROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) to (e) The national gas grid is a part of the long-term perspective plan for the development and utilisation of natural gas. Its implementation will depend on the establishment of adequate reserves of *gas and* availability of financial resources for its procHuetion and utilisation. Explibration is under Way for discovering oil and gas reserves.

No ©as is being flared in Madras. In Bombay High during. 1985-86 about 40 per cent of gas produced was flared and during 1986-87 this came down to about 24 per cent.

Price control on Drugs

*14 SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleas ed to state;

(a) Whether it is a fact "that Gbv-Gov-verment propose to decontrol the prices of certain Strugs which are being produced by a number of manu-facturers in the country; if so what are the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the Expert Committee on essential drugs hag been assigned the function of giving hearings to consumer bodies, medical professionals and individuals in regard to drug prices and allied matters?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) The details are contained in the booklet "Measures for Rationalisation, quality control and Growth of Pharmaceutical Industry in India", copies of which are available in the Parliament Lib-rary;

(to) An Expert Committee has been constituted to draw up the list of drugs which would form Category II The Committee will on its descretiion con-Sult representative Associations find" bodies.

Spreaders project of Neyveli Lignite Corpotions

*15. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA; Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state;

(a) what target date, if any, has been fixed by Neyveli Lignite Cor-poration to Complete the Spreaders projects of its Second Mine expansion programme;

(b) by when it is likely to be com-pleted;

.

(c) whether any precautions have been taken to ensure that only reliable equipment is imported; and

(d) if so, what are the details there-

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE); (a) and (b) The two 20000 T/Hr, spreaders Of the second mine expansion project of Neyveli Lignite Corporation Ltd. are scheduled to be commissioned by 10-4-1989 and 10-8-1989 respectively.